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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 1763**

**PATENT**

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 07553.0017

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)
	)
Mitsuru ISHIKAWA et al.	) Group Art Unit: 1763
	)
Application No.: 09/696,232	) Examiner: A. Olsen
	)
Filed: October 26, 2000	) Confirmation No.: 5127
	)
For: ETCHING METHOD	) Mail Stop AF
	)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed November 7, 2005, the period for response having been extended to March 7, 2006, by a request for extension of one month and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks** follow the amendment section of this paper.